IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete Claims 1-21 in the present application and insert the following claims:

--22.   A method for interconnecting a first location on a global communication network with a second location thereon, comprising the steps of:

provided an input device at the first location on the global communication network having associated therewith a unique input device ID;

5   scanning a product code disposed on a product with the input device, which product code is representative of the product in commercial transactions, the step of scanning operable to extract the information contained in the product code to provide a unique value as an output;

associating the unique value with the unique input device ID; and

10   in response to the step of scanning and the step of associating, connecting the first location to the second location.--

--23.   The method of Claim 22, wherein the step of connecting the second location comprises:

in response to the step of scanning and the step of associating, accessing a database having stored therein a plurality of unique values for a plurality

5   of products, each associated with routing information over the global communication network to one of the plurality of second locations;

comparing the output unique value with the stored unique values in the database; and

if a match exists between the output unique value and any of the

10   stored unique values:

retrieving from the database the associated routing information to the

second location, and

connecting the first location with the second location on the global communication network in accordance with the retrieved routing information.-

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--24.   The method of Claim 22, wherein the unique value comprises a binary value.--

--25.   The method of Claim 22, wherein the product code comprises a universal product code (UPC) as associated with a product indicating information regarding the product for use in commercial transactions associated with that product.--

--26.   The method of Claim 23, wherein the step of accessing the database comprises the steps of:

accessing a remote location on the global communication network at an intermediate node thereon;

forwarding the unique value and unique device ID to the intermediate node;

· wherein the database is disposed at the intermediate node;

retrieving the associated routing information from the database in the event of a positive mach and forwarding the retrieved routing information back to the first location and connecting the first location to the second location in accordance with the retrieved information.--

--27.   The method of Claim 23, wherein the second location represents product information associated with the product.--